THE BREAKER New Waves

FROM WHAT I HEAR, THE NEW HEAD HAS DECIDED TO COME TO THE MAIN BRANCH, IS THAT RIGHT?

WELCOME, ELDER JEON.

AH, IS EVERYONE HERE ALREADY?

AH, THAT BRAT. WHY THE HECK DID HE REJECT OUR OFFER IF HE WAS GONNA COME BACK TO US AFTER A FEW DAYS...

THAT'S RIGHT. WE ALSO HEARD THE NEWS JUST NOW.

CHE, WHAT IN THE WORLD...

BUT THE TIMING IS A LITTLE IFFY, IF I MAY SAY SO.

SO, HE'S COMING BACK WITH HIS TAIL TUCKED IN, AFTER TAKING A BEATING, HUH?

ANYWAY, IN LIGHT OF THAT SITUATION, I BELIEVE WE SHOULD WELCOME HIM MORE CORDIALLY THAN EVER.

IT SEEMS THAT THE NEW HEAD WAS ATTACKED BY AN UNKNOWN ENEMY.

!

OTHER SCHOOLS NOW HAVE A LAID-BACK ATTITUDE TOWARDS US, BUT...

WE MAY HAVE BEEN FREED FROM THE ALLIANCE'S INTERFERENCE, BUT OUR SUNWOO CLAN HAS YET TO REBUILD OURSELVES PROPERLY.

WHEN WORD GETS OUT THAT WE HAVE A NEW HEAD, THEY'LL BE SURE TO RAISE THEIR ALARM.

I MEAN, ISN'T THAT THE REASON WE HAVEN'T BROUGHT IN THE NEW HEAD UNTIL NOW?

THERE IS SOME SENSE IN WHAT ELDER KIM SAYS.

!

HEY! WHAT'S WITH THOSE DIRE IMPRECATIONS!

WHEN THE NEWS GETS OUT, THERE'LL BE NO GUARANTEES THE PAST WON'T REPEAT ITSELF...

NOTE: IMPRECATIONS - A SPOKEN CURSE.

BUT ELDER KWON, THAT MIGHT BE MISCONSTRUED AS THE COUNCIL OF ELDERS IMPRISONING THE NEW HEAD...

AND THAT'S WHY I OFFERED TEMPORARY, CONCEALED PROTECTION FOR THE NEW HEAD WITHIN THE SUNWOO CLAN'S VILLA.

HE WILL BE THE ONE TO DECIDE.

AND ALL WE MUST DO IS SIMPLY FOLLOW HIS WILL, ISN'T THAT SO?

VROOOOOM

WELL, YOU MADE THE RIGHT DECISION, ASKING FOR PROTECTION BEFORE YOU GET BADLY HURT.

HEY~! WHAT'S WRONG? WHY AREN'T YOU SAYING ANYTHING?

....

AH! WHATEVER! THIS IS WHAT GRANDPA WANTED, SO IT'LL BE FINE, I GUESS.

HOW PATHETIC... HOW CAN HE LOSE HIS WILL AFTER TAKING JUST ONE BEATING?

....

GLANCE

SCREEECH

SLAM

CLAN HEAD-NIM, YOU MUST HAVE GONE THROUGH SO MUCH RECENTLY. NOW, PLEASE REST EASY, AND ALLOW THE SUNWOO CLAN TO PROTECT YOU.

CHE, WE MIGHT AS WELL GET A DROWNED PUPPY AS THE NEW CLAN HEAD. MUCH BETTER THAN GETTING SOMEONE WHO GOT HIS ASS HANDED TO HIM...

HUSH! WATCH WHAT YOU'RE SAYING...

I DIDN'T COME HERE TO TELL YOU THAT I WILL BECOME THE CLAN HEAD.

HUH? WHAT?

FIRST, I WANT TO APOLOGIZE.

!

I WANT TO LEARN MARTIAL ARTS.

THE STRONGEST MARTIAL ARTS THAT I CAN LEARN IN MY CURRENT STATE.

...

HEY, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING ALL OF A SUDDEN?!

NO, THERE'S NO TIME FOR THAT.

WHAT?

PLEASE DON'T WORRY. YOU CAN LEARN THE SUNWOO CLAN'S MARTIAL ARTS ANY TIME YOU WANT.

WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT LATER, SO LET'S GO INSIDE FIRST...

HMPH! SO HE STILL WANTS TO KEEP HIS PRIDE, EVEN AFTER THAT BEATING?

WHAT?

HUH?

'CAUSE I HAVE TO FIGHT WITH A GUY NAMED YOO JI-GUN IN ONE WEEK.

ARE YOU INSANE?!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, A FIGHT?! AND AFTER THAT LAST HUMILIATION?!

YOU DO REALIZE THE LEVEL OF HIS SKILL, DON'T YOU?

WHY THE SUDDEN CHANGE OF MIND, AFTER REFUSING TO BECOME A MURIM-IN?

FINE! FINE! IT'S ALL GOOD; BUT LET ME ASK YOU JUST ONE THING.

WHOA~ THIS IS NUTS.

FLOP

Y- YOU...

IN THE END, IT'S ABOUT THAT GIRLFRIEND AGAIN, ISN'T IT?!

SO, YOU GUYS ARE IN SUCH A LOVE-LOVE RELATIONSHIP, HUH?!

BUT THOSE GUYS GOT OTHER PEOPLE INVOLVED, WHO HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS.

WHICH IS WHY I DECIDED I CAN'T LET IT GO ON LIKE THIS ANY MORE.

!

I STILL DON'T HAVE ANY DESIRE TO REJOIN THE MURIM.

HUH? THEN WHY?

I WAS A COWARD WHO GOT BEAT UP AND HAD MONEY STOLEN, EVERY SINGLE DAY.

SAEHEE AND SUNSENGNIM WERE THE ONES THAT CHANGED ME.

I OWE THEM A DEBT THAT I DON'T THINK I'LL EVER BE ABLE TO REPAY IN MY LIFETIME.

YOU KNOW, I... I USED TO BE A BULLYING VICTIM, BIG-TIME.

AND SAID I WAS A COWARD WHO HID BEHIND SUNSENGNIM'S NAME.

BUT THAT GUY THREATENED SAEHEE,

AND THAT MAKES ME ANGRY...!

IT PISSES ME OFF, SO DAMN MUCH!

TREMBLE TREMBLE

HE WAS RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME, BUT I COULDN'T EVEN FIGHT HIM PROPERLY.

CLENCH

I DON'T CARE IF I'M USELESS.

BUT HIM MENTIONING SUNSENGNIM'S NAME IN THAT WAY IS AN INSULT TO SUNSENGNIM, WHO CHOSE ME AS HIS DISCIPLE!

!

WHAT?... THEN THIS GUY, HE WASN'T SCARED OUT OF HIS WITS, BUT RATHER...

IF... IF THAT'S THE CASE...

THEN YOU CAN ASK THE SUNWOO CLAN FOR HELP! I MEAN, HOW WILL YOU FIGHT THAT GUY WHEN YOU'RE HELPLESS?!

I'M NOT A FOOL; I KNOW HOW STRONG HE IS, AND WHAT SITUATION I'M IN!

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER MY OPPONENT IS A MURIM-IN, OR NOT. I WILL DO THE FIGHTING.

BUT IF YOU FIGHT, YOU MIGHT DIE! YOU REALLY MIGHT DIE! YOU UNDERSTAND ?!

NO. HOW'S THAT ANY DIFFERENT FROM HIDING IN FEAR?!

THE MOMENT I DECIDED TO BECOME SUNSENGNIM'S DISCIPLE, I SWORE TO MYSELF

BUT MORE THAN THAT -- WHAT I HATE MORE THAN DYING IS...

THE ME THAT HIDES IN FEAR.

THAT I'D RATHER BE BROKEN COMPLETELY THAN BECOME SOMEONE WHO HIDES IN FEAR.

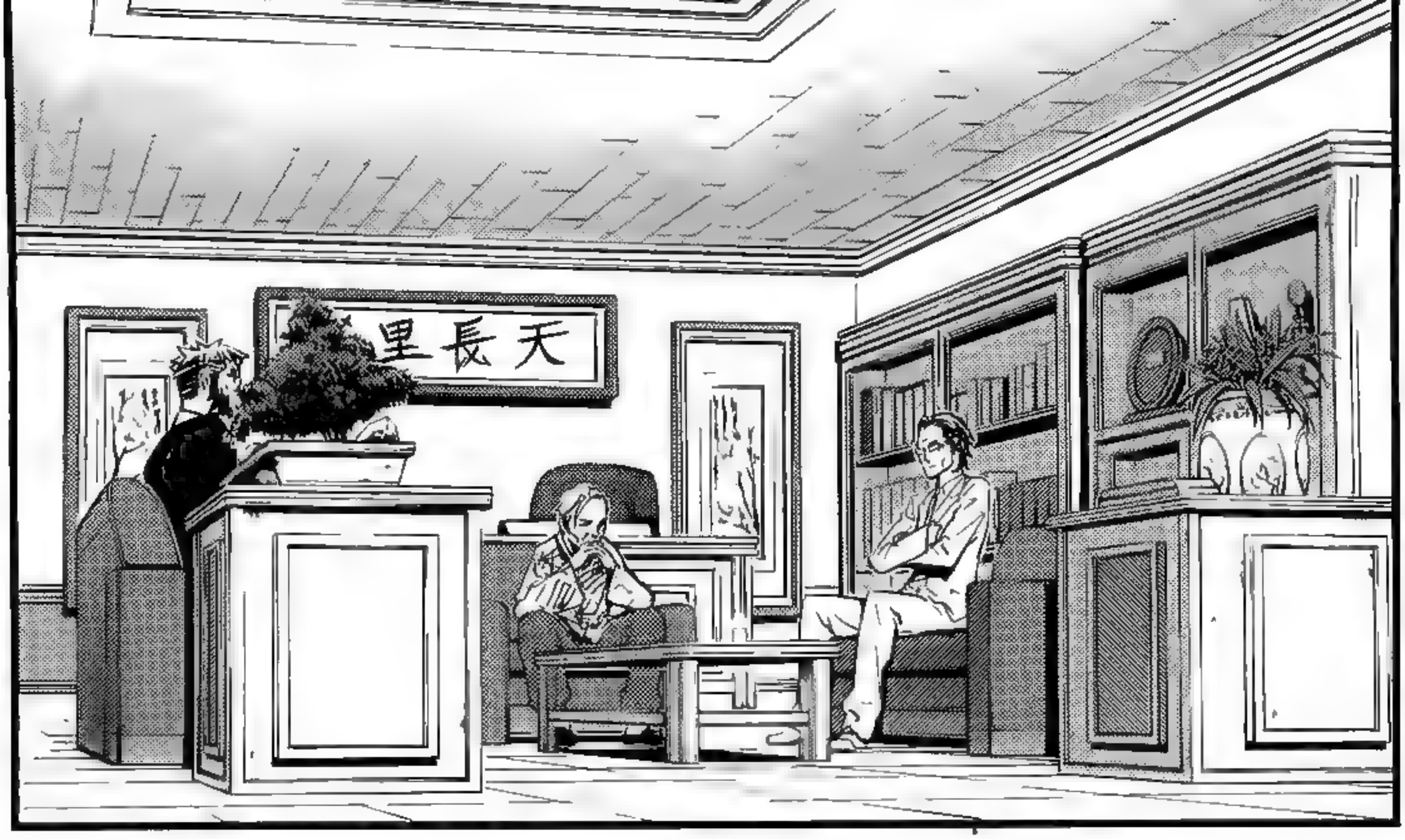
THIS GUY...

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE, BUT I'LL VOUCH FOR HIM!

THIS KID'S SPIRIT IS GOOMOONRYONG-LEVEL.

WHAT THAT SLY BASTARD MENTIONED, THE GOOMOONRYONG-LEVEL SPIRIT?

IS THIS PERHAPS...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IT'S NOT RECKLESSNESS, IT'S INSANITY!

AH... I'D NEVER HAVE GUESSED THAT HE WAS SO RECKLESS.

[*- "NAE GONG"]

IF THAT'S THE CASE, MAYBE WE SHOULD FIND HIS OPPONENT AND HAVE HIM *POOF* DISAPPEAR...
!

ELDER KWON, IF BY SOME CHANCE THE NEW HEAD PASSES AWAY IN THIS INCIDENT, IT WILL BE A HUGE BLOW TO THE MAIN BRANCH.

HE CAN'T EVEN USE HIS INNER ENERGY*, YET HE WANTS TO FIGHT SOMEONE IN A WEEK?? DO WE REALLY HAVE TO PUT UP WITH THIS NONSENSE?!

IF RUMORS NOW ARISE THAT THE SUNWOO CLAN ATTACKED ANOTHER FACTION, CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN?

ALREADY THE ENTIRE MURIM IS TAKING NOTE OF SUNWOO CLAN'S MOVEMENTS.

ELDER JEON! JUST HOW MUCH DO YOU WANT TO BLOW THIS OUT OF PROPORTION?

FLINCH

ALL OF THE SPOOKED FACTIONS WILL UNITE, AND SAY THAT THE SUNWOO CLAN'S REVENGE HAS STARTED; THEY WILL FIND ANY EXCUSE TO ATTACK US IMMEDIATELY.

UM... T- THEN WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

DO YOU REALLY THINK WE CAN FEND OFF THEIR ATTACKS?

CURRENTLY, OUR MAIN BRANCH HAS LESS THAN 1/3 THE FIGHTING POWER OF THE PAST.

[*- "DAN JUN"]

I WONDER... WHY DOES HE WANT TO LEARN MARTIAL ARTS ALL OF A SUDDEN? MAYBE IT'S AN INDICATION THAT HIS KI-CENTER* IS RECOVERING...?

ELDER KIM, YOU PERSONALLY FELT HIS PULSE BACK THEN, SO SHOULDN'T YOU KNOW THE ANSWER ALREADY? HIS KI-CENTER IS CLEARLY BROKEN, AND THE KI-CIRCULATION IS IMPOSSIBLE.

THEN IT POSES NO REAL PROBLEM, RIGHT?

AS IF YOU CAN PUT IT BACK TOGETHER LIKE THAT!

YOU THINK THE KI-CENTER IS LIKE CHILDREN'S PLAY-DOH?

HOH... I SEE...

I MEAN, A REGULAR PERSON WHO CAN'T USE HIS INNER ENERGY COULDN'T POSSIBLY LEARN THE MAIN BRANCH'S MARTIAL ARTS IN ONE WEEK, RIGHT?

!

....

YOU ARE RIGHT. WE'LL GO WITH THAT IN THIS SITUATION, THEN.

WHAT?
WHAT DO
YOU MEAN?

ACCORDINGLY,
IF SHIOON-NIM
WISHES TO LEARN
THE SUNWOO CLAN'S
MARTIAL ARTS,
THEN YOU MUST
FORMALLY ENTER
THE SUNWOO CLAN.

JUST AS I'VE SAID.
ORIGINALLY THERE
IS AN UNWRITTEN
CODE IN THE
MAIN BRANCH,
WHICH STATES THAT
ITS MARTIAL ARTS
MUST NOT BE
REVEALED TO AN
OUTSIDER*.

[*- "MUN WEH IN" - SOMEONE OUTSIDE OF THE SCHOOL/ARTS]

SINCE
SHIOON-NIM
ALREADY HAS A
MASTER,
YOU MAY FIND
IT DIFFICULT
TO FORMALLY
CHANGE
SCHOOLS**...

SO,
I THINK IT MAY
BE BEST TO PUT
YOUR NAME IN
UNDER THE
SUNWOO CLAN AS
THE ACTING HEAD,
BUT...

[**- HERE, IT MEANS TO CHANGE FROM HIS MASTER'S STYLE/TEACHING, TO SUNWOO CLAN'S.]

...

...

YES,
THAT IS
CORRECT.

IN OTHER WORDS,
I CANNOT LEARN
MARTIAL ARTS
WITHOUT
BECOMING THE
CLAN HEAD.
IS THAT IT?

YEAH! HOOK, LINE, AND SINKER!

HUH?

....

HEY, MAN! WATCH IT.

??

WHAT DID I DO?!

OH, IT'S NOTHING. DON'T MIND HIM.

THEN IT CAN'T BE HELPED. I WILL DO AS YOU SAY.

YES. AND IN RETURN, PLEASE TEACH ME MARTIAL ARTS.

AS YOU HAVE SAID, REGARDLESS OF WHAT HAPPENS, YOU WILL TAKE THE SEAT OF THE HEAD OF THE MAIN BRANCH A WEEK FROM NOW.

ELDER JEON WILL TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR SPECIAL TRAINING.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION, ELDER JEON CURRENTLY HOLDS THE STANDING POSITION OF HIGH MASTER* IN THE MAIN BRANCH.

I UNDER-STAND.

[*- "GO MUN": NO HANJA GIVEN; USUALLY MEANS ADVISOR, BUT HERE THE CONTEXT SUGGESTS HIGHEST IN THE ARTS/SCHOOL, I.E. HIGH MASTER]

HM! HM!

WELL, IF YOU DON'T MIND... SIR.*

T- THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR GUIDANCE.

[*- HERE, JEON ADDS A POLITE/HONORIFIC "-YO" ENDING, RELUCTANTLY]

WELL, SHALL WE GO AND OBSERVE THE HEAD'S TRAINING FOR A BIT?

WHY DON'T WE?

NOW THEN, LET US GO! WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME, SO LET'S START YOUR TRAINING

AH, Y- YES, SIR...

UM, GRAND-FATHER.

IS HE REALLY GOING TO LEARN...

DON'T CONCERN YOURSELF NEEDLESSLY.

THAT IS THE COUNCIL'S BUSINESS!

...

B- BUT THAT'S...

MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHAT IS THIS MESS DESPITE ALL YOUR GRANDSTANDING? IS THIS WHAT YOU CALL A JOB WELL DONE?

YOU NEVER FAIL TO DISAPPOINT ME... JUST LIKE YOUR MOTHER.